

Message Text

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20

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECSTATE WASHDC 5809

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3551

EXDIS

SECTO 20

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, JO, IS, SA

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO QUERIES ABOUT ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION
IN LANDS OCCUPIED IN 1967

REF: JIDDA 5238; CAIRO 6632; AMMAN 5315

1. AMBASSADOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE LINE BELOW ON
OCCASION HE JUDGES APPROPRIATE IN RESPONDING TO RECENT
REQUESTS FOR STATEMENT FOR US POLICY REGARDING ISRAELI
SETTLEMENTS IN AREAS OCCUPIED IN 1967.
2. SECRETARY IS KEENLY AWARE THAT EXISTENCE OF ISRAELI
SETTLEMENTS IN GOLAN, ON WEST BANK, AND IN SINAI REPRESENTS
DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR PEACE-MAKING PROCESS. MAY
1974 NEGOTIATIONS ON GOLAN DISENGAGEMENT SHARPLY
ILLUMINATED WAY IN WHICH ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED
AREAS COMPLICATE DEVELOPMENT OF NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS.
3. SECRETARY HAS MADE CLEAR TO ISRAELIS US CONCERN ABOUT
PROBLEMS WHICH SETTLEMENTS, ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL, POSE
FOR NEGOTIATIONS. US HAS SAID REPEATEDLY IT DOES NOT
ACCEPT ANY UNILATERAL ACTION BY ANY PARTY AS PREJUDGING
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ELEMENTS OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

4. OUR EFFORTS ARE NOW CONCENTRATED ON BRINGING NEGOTIATING PROCESS TO POINT WHERE THIS ISSUE CAN BE ADDRESSED EFFECTIVELY. AS WE HAVE SAID, NEGOTIATING PROCESS MUST PROCEED ONE STEP AT A TIME, AND THE TIMING OF WHEN ISSUES ARE DEALT WITH IN NEGOTIATIONS IS CRITICAL. ARAB LEADERS CAN BE ASSURED WE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE THIS ISSUE AND THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT EFFECT OF ISRAELI ACTIONS ON NEGOTIATIONS ACTIVELY IN MIND AS TALKS PROCEED.

5. FYI: WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE ABOVE WILL BE LESS THAN FULLY SATISFACTORY TO FISAL, HUSSEIN AND SADAT. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS ONLY HONEST AND RESPONSIBLE ANSWER WE CAN GIVE TO DIFFICULT QUESTION. AS WITH NUMBER OF ISSUES TO BE DEALT WITH IN A FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT, WE ARE NOT ABLE AT THIS STAGE THEN TO DO MORE THAN MAKE US POSITION CLEAR AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION LATER AS ISSUE COMES UP IN NEGOTIATIONS. END FYI.
KISSINGER

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